

The quality of local broadcasting has clearly become degraded since earlier deregulation steps were taken. This situation cannot be allowed to worsen by further deregulation. The media is the gatekeeper of our information, and the public needs diversity in the media in order to produce informed citizens. The deregulation of the media will allow companies like Viacom and AOL-Time-Warner to control everything the public hears, sees and believes. Through basic economics, one learns that competition is key for a fair and balanced marketplace. The why are we giving all the control to few people. There is already too much regulation that allows these mega corporations to maintain their stronghold in every media source. Local ownership need not be further threatened.